

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In The Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a directory listing, comprising steps of:

receiving query information from a user, wherein said query information includes at least genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity[.], said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity genealogically related to but separate from the user-sought entity, said information pertaining to the at least one entity not comprising the name of the user-sought entity;

searching a database for the query information, the database including a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity; and

presenting a query result to the user.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the database is a central database.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the database is a distributed database.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the genealogical information includes one of a parent's name and a sibling's name.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

9. (Currently amended) A method for providing a directory listing, the method comprising steps of:

receiving query information from a user;

searching a database for a directory listing corresponding to the query information, wherein the database includes a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity;

presenting a query result to the user;

requesting genealogical information corresponding to the query information, said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;

receiving the genealogical information from the user;

searching the database for a directory listing corresponding to the genealogical information; and

presenting a genealogical query result to the user.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the database is a central database.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the database is a distributed database.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

15. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the genealogical information includes at least a parent's name or a sibling's name.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

17. (Currently amended) A method for providing a directory listing, comprising the steps:

linking a first record in a database to a second record in the database when the first and second records contain chronologically different information corresponding to a same single user-sought entity, said first record containing first data of said single user-sought entity, said second record containing second data of said single user-sought entity, wherein the first record differs from said second record at least in time;

receiving from a user, query information corresponding to a said user-sought entity;

searching the database for said first record and said second record corresponding to said single user-sought entity ~~listings~~ corresponding to the query information, ~~wherein said database includes said first record and said second record of said user-sought entity a plurality of records, each record containing directly listing information for an entity;~~

presenting a query result to the user, wherein said query result includes at least one indicator for each of said first record and said second record listing corresponding to the query information ~~that is linked to other listings in the database.~~

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step:

repeatedly presenting linked listings to the user when the user activates the indicator, wherein the linked listings are presented with at least one indicator when the linked listing is linked to other listings in the database.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein a first indicator is presented when the listing is linked to a chronologically older listing in the database, and a second indicator is presented when the listing is linked to a chronologically newer listing in the database.
20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.
21. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.
22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the database is a central database.
23. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the database is a distributed database.
24. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.
25. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.
26. (Currently amended) A method for providing a directory listing, comprising the steps:
receiving from a user, query information corresponding to a user-sought entity, wherein said query information includes at least genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity, said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity genealogically related to but separate from the user-sought entity;
searching a database for database listings corresponding to the query information, wherein said database includes a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information and an accuracy data field corresponding to an entity; and

presenting a query result to the user, wherein said query result includes the contents of the accuracy field for each directory listing presented.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the accuracy data field is a date corresponding to a last date on which the directory listing information was most likely known to be accurate.

28. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the accuracy data field is a date corresponding to a last date on which the directory listing information was verified to be accurate.

29. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the accuracy data field is a number corresponding to a number of days since the directory listing information was most likely known to be accurate.

30. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the accuracy data field is a number corresponding to a number of days since the directory listing information was verified to be accurate.

31. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the accuracy data field is a percentage corresponding to a likelihood that the directory listing information is accurate.

32. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

33. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

34. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the database is a central database.

35. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the database is a distributed database.

36. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

37. (Original) The method of claim 26 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

38. (Currently amended) A method of providing a directory listing, comprising the steps:

receiving query information from a user, wherein said query information includes genealogical information and one of a telephone number and an email address corresponding to a user-sought entity, said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity genealogically related to but separate from the user-sought entity;

searching a database for the query information, the database including a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity;

searching the Internet for the query information; and

presenting a query result to the user including results from the database search and the Internet search.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising the step:

defining an area code portion, an exchange portion, and a number portion corresponding to the telephone number, when the query information includes the telephone number;

wherein the searching the Internet is performed by searching for telephone numbers on web pages, said telephone numbers on web pages including one or more of the area code portion, the exchange portion, and the number portion, regardless of a presentation format on the web pages.

40. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising the step:
defining a username portion and a domain name portion corresponding to the
email address, when the query information includes the email address;
wherein the searching the Internet is performed by searching for email addresses
on web pages, said email addresses on web pages including at least the username portion
and the domain name portion.

41. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the user-sought entity is an
individual.

42. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of receiving the query
information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

43. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the database is a central database.

44. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the database is a distributed database.

45. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the directory listing includes a
telephone number.

46. (Original) The method of claim 38 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are
performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

47. (Currently amended) A system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
a database including a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing
information for an entity;
a server computer adapted to perform the steps:
receiving query information from a user, wherein said query information includes
at least genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity.

said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;

searching the database for the query information; and
presenting a query result to the user.

48. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

49. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

50. (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein the database is a central database.

51. (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein the database is a distributed database.

52. (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

53. (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein the genealogical information includes at least one of a parent's name and a sibling's name.

54. (Original) The system of claim 47 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

55. (Currently amended) A system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
a database comprising a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity;
a server computer adapted to perform the steps:
receiving query information from a user;
searching the database for a directory listing corresponding to the query information;

presenting a query result to the user;
requesting genealogical information corresponding to the query information, said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;
receiving the genealogical information from the user;
searching the database for a directory listing corresponding to the genealogical information; and
presenting a genealogical query result to the user.

56. (Original) The system of claim 55, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

57. (Original) The system of claim 55, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

58. (Original) The system of claim 55 wherein the database is a central database.

59. (Original) The system of claim 55 wherein the database is a distributed database.

60. (Original) The system of claim 55 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

61. (Original) The system of claim 55 wherein the genealogical information includes at least a parent's name or a sibling's name.

62. (Original) The system of claim 55 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

63. (Currently amended) A system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
a database comprising a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity, wherein a first record in the database is linked to a

second record in the database when the first and second records contain chronologically different information corresponding to a same single user-sought entity;

a server computer adapted to perform the steps:

receiving from a user, query information corresponding to a said single user-sought entity;

searching the database for listings the first record and the second record corresponding to the single user-sought entity of the query information;

presenting a query result to the user, wherein said query result includes at least one indicator for each listing that is linked record associated with the single user-sought entity of the query information to other listings in the database.

64. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the server computer is adapted to recursively present a linked listing to the user when the user activates the indicator, wherein the linked listing is presented with at least one indicator when the linked listing is linked to at least one other listing in the database.

65. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the server computer is adapted to present a first indicator when the listing is linked to a chronologically older listing in the database, and to present a second indicator when the listing is linked to a chronologically newer listing in the database.

66. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

67. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

68. (Original) The system of claim 63 wherein the database is a central database.

69. (Original) The system of claim 63 wherein the database is a distributed database.

70. (Original) The system of claim 63 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.

71. (Original) The system of claim 63, wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.

72. (Currently amended) A system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
a database comprising a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information and an accuracy data field corresponding to an entity;
a server computer adapted to perform the steps:
receiving from a user, query information corresponding to a user-sought entity, wherein said query information includes at least genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity, said genealogical information comprising information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;
searching the database for database listings corresponding to the query information;
presenting a query result to the user, wherein said query result includes the contents of the accuracy field for each directory listing presented.

73. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the accuracy data field is a date corresponding to a last date on which the directory listing information was most likely known to be accurate.

74. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the accuracy data field is a date corresponding to a last date on which the directory listing information was verified to be accurate.

75. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the accuracy data field is a number corresponding to a number of days since the directory listing information was most likely known to be accurate.

76. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the accuracy data field is a number corresponding to a number of days since the directory listing information was verified to be accurate.
77. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the accuracy data field is a percentage corresponding to a likelihood that the directory listing information is accurate.
78. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.
79. (Original) The system of claim 72, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.
80. (Original) The system of claim 72 wherein the database is a central database.
81. (Original) The system of claim 72 wherein the database is a distributed database.
82. (Original) The system of claim 72 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.
83. (Original) The system of claim 72 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.
84. (Currently amended) A system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
 - a database comprising a plurality of records, each record containing directory listing information for an entity;
 - a server computer adapted to perform the steps:
 - receiving query information from a user, wherein said query information includes genealogical information and one of a telephone number and an email address
 - corresponding to a user-sought entity, said genealogical information comprising

information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;

searching the database for the query information;
searching the Internet for the query information; and
presenting a query result to the user including results from the database search and the Internet search.

85. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the server computer is adapted to perform the step:

defining an area code portion, an exchange portion, and a number portion corresponding to the telephone number, when the query information includes the telephone number;

wherein the searching the Internet is performed by searching for telephone numbers on web pages, said telephone numbers on web pages including one or more of the area code portion, the exchange portion, and the number portion, regardless of a presentation format on the web pages.

86. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the server computer is adapted to perform the step:

defining a username portion and a domain name portion corresponding to the email address, when the query information includes the email address;

wherein the searching the Internet is performed by searching for email addresses on web pages, said email addresses on web pages including at least the username portion and the domain name portion.

87. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the user-sought entity is an individual.

88. (Original) The system of claim 84, wherein the step of receiving the query information from the user is performed via a voice telephone call.

89. (Original) The system of claim 84 wherein the database is a central database.
90. (Original) The system of claim 84 wherein the database is a distributed database.
91. (Original) The system of claim 84 wherein the directory listing includes a telephone number.
92. (Original) The system of claim 84 wherein the receiving and presenting steps are performed over one of a telecommunications network and a computer network.
93. (Currently amended) A method for providing a directory listing, comprising steps of:
 - presenting to a user a plurality of choices, said plurality of choices being based on genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity comprising information pertaining to at least one entity genealogically related to but separate from the user-sought entity;
 - waiting for the user to select at least one of said choices; and
 - performing a search for a directory listing in accordance with the user selection.
94. (Original) The method of claim 93, wherein the choices comprise various databases in which to perform the search.
95. (Original) The method of claim 94, wherein the various databases comprise genealogical information, historical information, accuracy information, and world wide web information.
96. (Currently amended) A computer system for providing a directory listing, comprising:
 - a processor;
 - a memory for storing computer readable instructions;

wherein when the computer readable instructions are executed, the computer system is adapted to perform the steps:

presenting to a user a plurality of choices, said plurality of choices being based on genealogical information corresponding to a user-sought entity comprising information pertaining to at least one entity related to but separate from the user-sought entity;

waiting for the user to select at least one of said choices; and

performing a search for a directory listing in accordance with the user selection.

97. (Original) The method of claim 96, wherein the choices comprise various databases in which to perform the search.

98. (Original) The method of claim 97, wherein the various databases comprise genealogical information, historical information, accuracy information, and world wide web information.